

What is claimed is:

CLAIMS

1. An apparatus comprising:
a display device, and
a display controller configured to display graphical images representative of tabular data and to permit a user to graphically edit the tabular data.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to display the tabular data as a line chart.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to display the tabular data as a stacked bar chart.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to permit a user to edit the tabular data by adding a data display element.

5. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the added data display element is a line within a line chart.

6. The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the added data display element is a bar within a stacked bar chart.

7. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to permit a user to edit the tabular data by selecting a range within a graphical display area.

8. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the controller is configured to permit a user to edit the tabular data by selecting a data display element to edit.

9. The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the controller is configured to permit a user to edit the tabular data by selecting an editing function to be applied to the data display element.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the controller is configured to display an editing function as an editing option in the form of an equation.

11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the controller is configured to display an editing function as an editing option in the form of a graphical representation of an equation.

12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the graphical representation is a line chart.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the graphical representation is a bar chart.

14. The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a simulator configured to receive tabular data edited by a user employing the controller of claim 1.

15. A method of interactively displaying tabular data comprising the steps of:
(A) displaying graphical images representative of tabular data; and
(B) accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data.

16. The method of claim 15 wherein the step (A) of displaying graphical images representative of tabular data further comprises the step of:
(A1) displaying the tabular data as a line chart.

17. The method of claim 15 wherein the step (A) of displaying graphical images representative of tabular data further comprises the step of:
(A2) displaying the tabular data as a stacked bar chart.

18. The method of claim 15 wherein the step (B) of accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data further comprises the step of:
(B1a) accepting input from a user to edit the tabular data by adding a data display element.

19. The method of claim 18 wherein the step (B1) of adding a data display element comprises the step of:
(B1b) adding a line within a line chart.

20. The method of claim 18 wherein the step (B1) of adding a data display element comprises the step of:
(B1c) adding a bar within a stacked bar chart.

21. The method of claim 15 wherein the step (B) of accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data further comprises the step of:
(B2) being responsive to the selection by a user of a range within a graphical display area by editing tabular data corresponding to that range.

22. The method of claim 15 wherein the step (B) of accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data further comprises the step of:
(B3) being responsive to the selection by a user of a data display element by editing tabular data corresponding to that data display element.

23. The method of claim 22 wherein the step (B3) of accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data further comprises the step of:
(B3a) being responsive to the selection by a user of an editing function by applying the editing function to a data display element.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the step (B3a) further comprises the step of:
(B3b) displaying an editing function as an editing option in the form of an equation.

25. The method of claim 23 wherein the step (B3a) further comprises the step of:
(B3c) displaying an editing function as an editing option in the form of a graphical representation of an equation.

26. The method of claim 25 wherein the step (B3c) further comprises the step of:
(B3d) displaying a line chart as the graphical representation.

27. The method of claim 25 wherein the step (B3c) further comprises the step of:
(B3e) displaying a bar chart as the graphical representation.

28. The method of claim 15 further comprising the step of:
(C) accepting graphically edited tabular data; and
(D) performing a simulation using the graphically edited tabular data.

29. A computer program product for use with an interactive display system capable of receiving input signals from an input device, the computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having computer readable code thereon comprising:
display code for displaying tabular data on a display as graphical

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image; and
code for accepting user input to graphically edit the tabular data.

30. The computer program product of claim 29 further comprising:
code for performing a simulation using the graphically edited tabular data.

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